



Community Engagement in Redistricting in California's Central Valley

Sophia Garcia and Camila Chavez

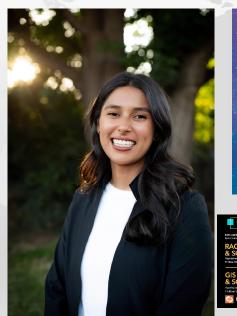
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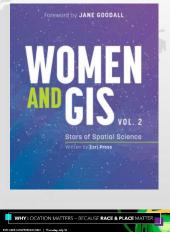
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Co Vice Chair URISA Racial Equity Committee

ESRI Press Women in GIS Volume 2 Stars of Spatial Science

GIS Analyst Dolores Huerta Foundation











Camila Chavez Executive Director Dolores Huerta Foundation

Grassroots Organizing

Vecinos Unidos "Neighbors United"

Youth Leadership Development

Civic Engagement

Covid-19 Relief



Doloreshuerta.org

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Redistricting Partners Mission Statement

Redistricting Partners is a private firm with a unique background, reputation and experience. We seek to assist groups in the process of redistricting, voting rights act analysis, and identifying communities of interest with the goal of increasing their ability to influence the outcome of elections.

One of our most impactful projects in 2011 was working with the commission on developing data and information on the LGBTQ community as a community of interest in the redistricting process. This work extended down to local redistricting where districts were drawn in several municipalities to increase the voting power of the LGBTQ community.

Redistricting Partners is currently contracted with the City of Long Beach and it's inaugural independent redistricting commission. We also have contracts with Berkeley, Burlingame, Carpinteria and Napa. We have partnerships with the Foundation for California Community Colleges and other statewide organizations and expect to be doing a number of important redistricting projects, primarily in California.





Central Valley Back Story

- Origin Story of communities of CV of California begins after the acquisition of California from Mexico. The Central Valley does not have a Spanish history. You can see that by the names of our towns for example Buttonwillow, Pixley, Bakersfield and Taft
- The establishment of the Central Valley is unique as compared to what most people know about California. Unlike Los Angeles, Santa Barbara or San Francisco before 1850s the Central Valley was vast desert and swamp lands.
- Central Valley began to establish itself due to southern moving to the Central Valley after the civil war and real estate developers taking advantage of federal land policies that allowed for the acquisition of large tracks of land.
- 4. Agriculture and Oil were and maintain to be major drivers of the economy today.





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Central Valley Back Story

- Developers in the 1800s, Oakeys from the dust bowl migrate in the 1930s and in the 50/60s you have the Braceros
 program and migrant farmworkers. The Central Valley also has a poor and lower income working class population
 and from the Bracero program we have a growing Latino population.
- 2. The Central Valley has always had an evolving immigrant population. In the Central Valley we have a large Sikh population which we will be able to see for the first time with the new census numbers.
- 3. With the growing low income population we have social justice icons such as Dolores, Chavez, Larry Itliong and others who struggled for the rights of immigrants, farm workers and disenfranchised communities of color.
- 4. We have seen the way the two narratives of the Central Valley have played in Redistricting Battles.
- In 1992 Ray Gonzalez, first democrat Latino elected to State Assembly, began a lawsuit with the Kern Board of Supervisors to establish the 5 district.
- 6. Pete Parra was elected and became the first Latino to be a Board of Supervisor.





Birth of the Equity and Social Justice GIS Movement

In 2016 Jack Dangermond and Dolores Huerta met at ESRI headquarters and the Equity and Social Justice GIS movement was born.





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Redistricting in Kern County

In 2018 MALDEF, Dolores Huerta and other community members win a lawsuit against the Kern Board of Supervisors for violating the Federal Voting Rights Act. They spent close to 8 million dollars of taxpayer money.









Roadmap

- 1. Brief history of Central Valley
- 2. Role of GIS Professions in the Redistricting Process
- 3. ESJ Framework
- 4. DHF Redistricting Examples
- 5. DHF next steps

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Presentation Themes

- 1. Communities are not even aware this process is occurring or that the maps will effect communities for an entire decade, educating and empowering the community to use their voice is at the core of DHFs involvement in the Redistricting process.
- 2. Perfect example of GIS + Community Engagement
- 3. Redistricting at its core is about creating maps that allow for the community to elect someone who represents them





Role of GIS Professional in Redistricting Process

- GIS Privilege and Power
- All know our communities
- Redistricting is the perfect example of GIS + Community Engagement











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Equity and Social Justice Framework

- 1. Dolores Huerta Foundation Mission
- 2. Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) Model
- 3. Critical Race Spatial Analysis (CRSA)
- 4. Redistricting Best Practices
- 5. URISA Code of Ethics
- 6. URISA Anti Racism Pro Equity Social Justice Statement





Equity and Social Justice Framework Dolores Huerta Foundation

Mission Inspiring and organizing communities to build volunteer organizations empowered to pursue social justice











Equity and Social Justice Framework Integrated Voter Engagement (IVE) Model

- 1. IVE groups train community members to reach out to their peers in a continuous, ongoing effort
- 2. increasing nonpartisan integrated voter engagement sustainably builds capacity to engage historically underrepresented populations in policy, systems change and the democratic process (within and beyond election cycles).
- 3. educate voters about election issues, make sure new and unlikely voters actually cast their ballots, and ensure that misinformation and intimidation don't inhibit people from voting.
- 4. developing local leaders and involving people in shaping the public policy decisions that affect their lives.

 $https://funderscommittee.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/fccp_integrated_voter_engagement_case_studies_2009_final.pdf (a.g., a.g., b.g., b.g.,$

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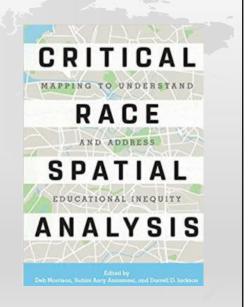






Equity and Social Justice Framework Critical Race Spatial Analysis Working Definition

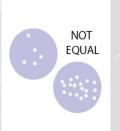
- 1. Foregrounding the color-line
- 2. Challenging race-neutral representation
- 3. Focusing research, curriculum, practice, and activism on mapping the spatial expression of the lived experiences of People of Color
- Centering a transformative solution by investing in and often reimagining 'spatial' research and teaching tools
- 5. Utilizing the transdisciplinary knowledge base of critical race studies in education
- 6. Emphasizing maps and mapmaking as point of departure for analyzing the sociospatial relationship between race and space and refusing to allow maps to speak for themselves



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Equity and Social Justice Framework Redistricting Best Practices

- Equal Population amongst districts
- Contiguity
- Compactness
- Preserving local subdivisions (county, city, town or ward lines)
- Preserving Communities of Interest













Equity and Social Justice Framework URISA Code of Ethics

I. Obligations to Society

- I. Do the Best work possible
- II. Contribute to the Community to the Extent Possible, Feasible and Advisable
- III. Speak Out About Issues

II. Obligations to Employers and Funders

- Deliver Quality Work
- II. Have a Professional Relationship
- III.Be Honest in Representations

III. Obligations to Colleagues and the Profession

- I. Respect the Work of Others
- II. Contribute to the Discipline to the Extent Possible
- IV. Obligations to Individuals in Society
 - Respect Privacy
 - II. Respect Individuals

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Equity and Social Justice Framework URISA Code of Ethics

Obligations to Society

The GIS professional recognizes the impact of his or her work on society as a whole, on subgroups of society including geographic or demographic minorities, on future generations, and inclusive of social, economic, environmental, or technical fields of endeavor. Obligations to society shall be paramount when there is conflict with other obligations.





Equity and Social Justice Framework URISA Anti Racism Pro Equity and Social Justice Statement

As an international organization, URISA opposes systemic racism in any form worldwide. URISA will reflect and act in opposition to racism. We must recognize the urgency of the moment, requiring us to make changes both individually and organizationally and revisit our priorities frequently to actively confront the forces that sustain institutional racism and how we may be complicit therein. Moving forward, our dedicated and sustained actions will be devoted to dismantling anti-Black decisions at all levels. URISA commits to reflecting on its internal systems and governance structures and taking action to reduce bias and implicit racism — to eliminate it entirely.

Recent events have raised awareness of the White and racist history of pervasive inequities and equality disparities that erode Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPoC) communities across the United States. As a normative White society, we have been complicit, stood silently while witnessing the racist violence against Black communities firsthand, in the United States and throughout the world.

The murders of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Elijah McClain, and George Floyd, as highlighted by the media, represent only a small percent of Black murders by Whites in recent times and throughout our nation's history. These recent atrocities contribute to a growing nationwide awareness of racism fed by routine biases and inequities. Intentional or otherwise, all our current systems are complicit in creating, bolstering and maintaining violence and inequity of our current institutions.

As a first step in this commitment, URISA has organized a Pro-Equity and Anti-Racism Committee focused on investigating and acting to reduce racial bias in the organization. The committee is tasked with developing an Anti-Racism and Pro-Equity framework for the organization within the next nine months. URISA will rise to the call of justice and champion equity for all.

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GIS Professionals Role in Redistricting What is your role in the redistricting process?

- Official Demographer contracted by the board
- · Community Demographer with alternative plan
- Community member





GIS Professionals Role in Redistricting Understand the Law

- Federal Voting Rights Act
- California Voting Rights Act
- AB 849 Fair Maps Act
- Ab 1276 Fair Maps Clean up



SENATE FLOOR VOTE YES ON THE FAIR MAPS ACT AB 849 (Bonta)

Partisan and racially-discriminatory gerrymandering has no place in California's democracy, at any level of government. The way we draw city council and county supervisorial election district lines is a fundamental civil rights issue, determining which California communities will be represented and which could be ignored for the next decade. AB 49 (Bonta), the FAIR MAPS Act, would create stronger and clearer standards for local redistricting, Modeled off the requirements already in place for State redistricting, this bill:

Creates Standardized, **Fair redistricting criteria**, prioritizing intact neighborhoods and diverse communities and prohibiting partisan gerrymandering.

- neighborhoods and diverse communities and promoning personal genymandering.

 Requires local governments to engage communities in the redistricting process by holding public hearings and doing public outreach, including with non-English-speaking communities.

 Better aligns the timing of local redistricting with recent changes to state law (notuding the new March primary) to allow more opportunities for public participation.

BACKGROUND
AS 849 was passed in 2019 to allow for robust public input into local redistricting in California. The bill established uniform redistricting criteria, deadlines, and essential procedural requirements for cities and counties. Thanks to AB 840, counties and cities must hold at least four public hearings or workshops to solicit community input on their district maps. The law also set a waiting period before which jurisdictions could not adopt maps.

THE NEED FOR AB 1276

- HE.NEED FOR AB 1278

 Technical Errors: Sponsors have worked with the Legislative Counsel attorney on AB 346 to confirm the language in all three code sections (charter cities, general law cities, and counties). The few remaining differences between the three code sections are purposeful and appropriate to the jurisdiction type.

 Missed Amendments: Charter cities had requested two amendments to AB 849 that were inadvertently left out. One amendment simply provides additional clarity under existing law that a charter city can establish a hybrid or independent redistricting commission, as many have already done. The other amendment, which was accidentably deleted with a revision to AB 849, specifies that charter cities may adopt their own redistricting criteria in their city charters.

AB 1276 also addresses the redistricting deadlines and require

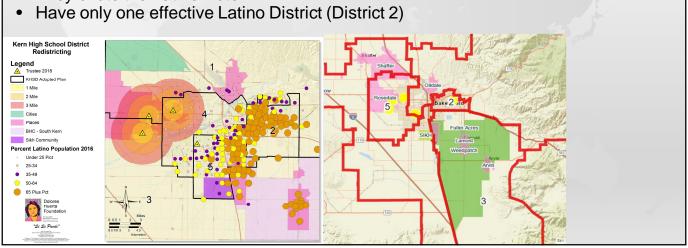
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 1. Fixes the Redistricting Timeline to Leave Adequate Time for the Elections
 Process: AB 849 required that maps be adopted 151 days before the first
 election in which they would be used. Elections officials requested that maps be
 adopted at least 173 days before the first election instead, which is when the window for candidates to collect signatures in lieu of paying a filing fee opens
- 2. Fixes Timeline Problems for 2021 Caused by Delay of Census Data Fixes I meline Problems for 2021 caused by Delay of Census Data: Typically, redistrioning data are released by April 1st of the year following the decennial census (41/2021); For 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau has indicated that census data may be released as late as 73/12/2021; California processes the data and releases it in the Statewide Database, which will take up to an additional month to prepare, so the final redistricting data may not be available until 91/12/2021. This allows little time for the mapping process in jurisdictions with elections in the first half of 2022.

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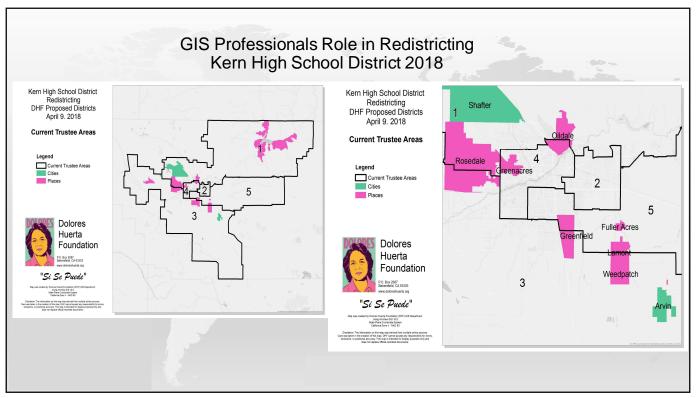
GIS Professionals Role in Redistricting Kern High School District 2018

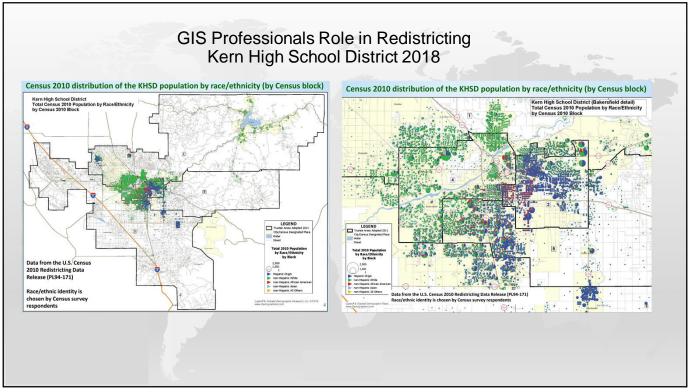
- **DO NOT** comply with Federal Voting Rights Act
- They dilute the Latino Population
- They dilute the Latino Vote





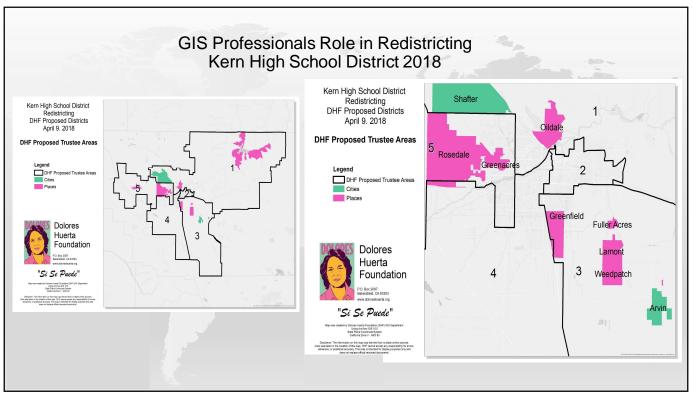


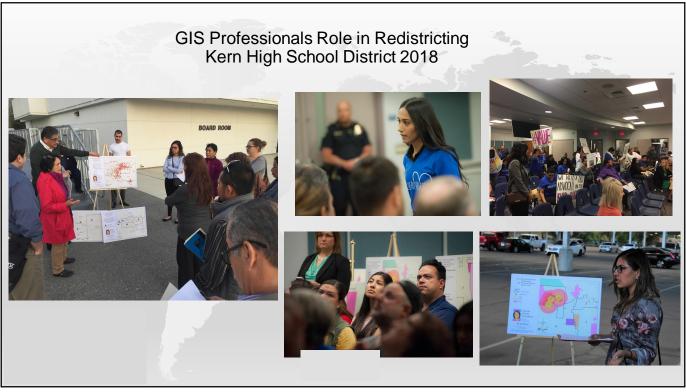






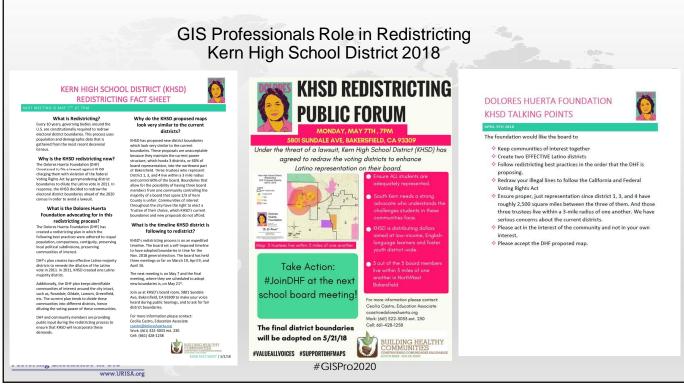


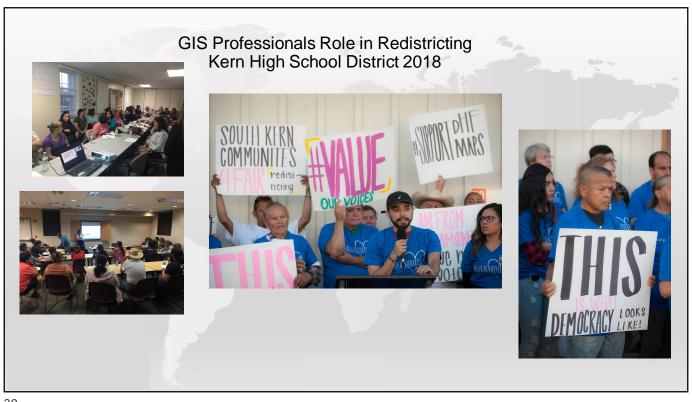


















GIS Professionals Role in Redistricting UCSC Everett Program

- 2018 2019 partnered with a team of 5 students to evaluate 2018 KHSD Redistricting process
- Created first draft of Redistricting Toolkit









Kern Community College District 2020 Redistricting

- 1. One of the largest Community College Districts in the Country
- 2. 3 main campuses
- 3. 60 + KCCD sits
- 4. Violation of California Voting Rights Act (Move from 5 districts to 7)
- 5. Redistricting Process began December 2019 and completed May 2020

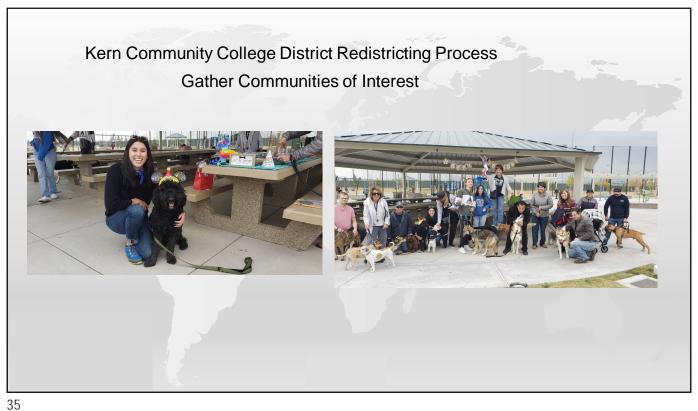


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One of the largest Community College Districts in country Annual budget of 253 million dollars Over 60 sites DHF and KCCD proposed map layers Kern Community College District Redistricting 2020 Income Tourne Tourne Country Income Districts in Country Income Districts Income Tourne Country Income Districts Income Country Income Districts Income Tourne Country Income Districts Income Country Income Districts Income





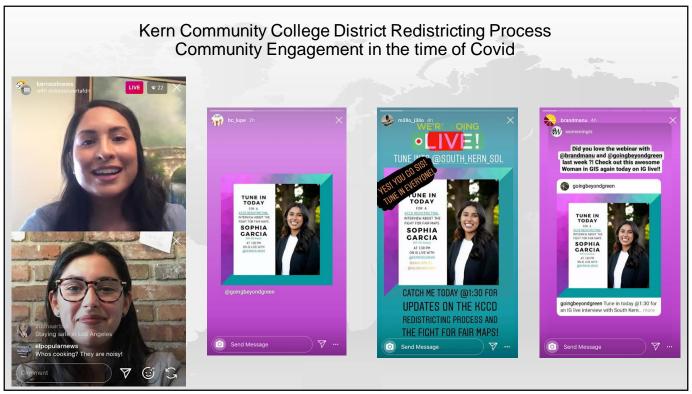


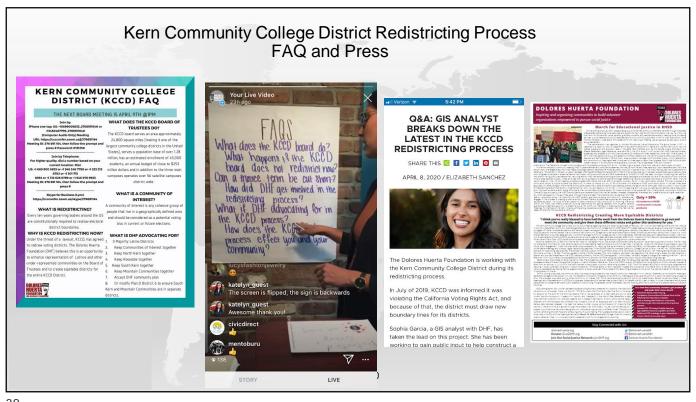
Kern Community College District Redistricting Process
Community Presentations

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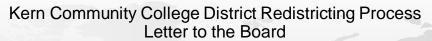














- DHF sent request and question letter to KCCD
- Request 30 minute time slot to give presentation
- Follow new laws AB849 *AB1276 passed 2020*
- Redistricting Portal
- · Meet after 6pm
- Shapefiles available to public
- Asked about outreach plan

Redistricting Portal on KCCD main page Shapefiles on KCCD redistricting page Demographer provided COI forms Training Redistricting page Demographer provided COI forms Redistricting Portal on KCCD main page Demographer provided COI forms Redistricting Portal on KCCD main page Demographer provided COI forms Redistricting Portal on KCCD main page Demographer provided COI forms





Kern Community College District Redistricting Process Community of Interest Forms

Mi Interes Seria que mis hisos puedan estudiar en la carrera que ellos escolan Cerca de mi hogar que no tengan que salir Fuera para ir ai colegio

Donde se encuentra su comunidad? Lo puede definir por vecindades, calles, dirección, un tlo de importancia como una universidad, instalaciones, escuelas, iglesia, o otros límites.

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Please select all that apply to you:				
Commuter	Part-time student	Full-time student X	Parent	
KHSD Student	KHSD Alumni X	Need childcare services	Double Major	
Student Athlete	Immigrant ×	Take night classes	Low Income ×	
First generation	Been in KCCD over 2 years	Attend classes at satellite campus	Attend classes at a main campus	

*Commuter: If you live near a KCCD campus but have to commute to another KCCD location to att If you do commute please indicate your neighborhood and KCCD location.

Ethnic Group:

X	African-American	South Asian	Filipino
Ü	Vietnamese	Other:	Other:

Please answer the questions below to document your COIs.

Member of a Student Club out CSUB called UNIR and also an advocate for Immigrant Justice with leavy youth Abolitionists & CIY 5 At 2. How does your community of interesthology related to the community college district?

I live by West High School and Otten Collifornia State University of Eakersteid

How to Document Your Community of Interest

More child care service for early childhood

I live by South High School White In, Planz Rd Bakersfield, CA

What is the rationale for your community of interest to be used in this community colle redistricting? Please describe how the issues before the college board have a unique im your group.

Not enough classes offered such as sciences. One, maybe two professors offer earth science and its impossible to get into them.

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Kern Community College District Redistricting Process

- Attended all public meetings 2020
 - Proposed map plan
 - 14 community meetings
 - 3 community announcements
- IG Live interview with local youth reporter
 - IG live FAQ session
 - 60 COI forms completed
 - ~450 people reached





Q&A 43

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